

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) -- Congressman Wally Herger today spoke on the House floor in opposition to legislation that would create new reporting requirements for owners of health savings accounts (HSAs). The bill would also repeal a program that allows the IRS to work with private contractors to recover unpaid tax liabilities. His remarks are below and can be watched [here](#).

“Mr. Speaker, as Americans send their checks to the IRS today, they have a number of concerns. There are the dozens of tax provisions that expired last year and have not yet been extended, adding to economic uncertainty. There is the inefficiency of many federal agencies, resulting in waste of hard-earned tax dollars. And there are the entitlement programs that threaten to double the federal tax burden over the coming decades if they are not reformed. All of these are issues Congress should be considering this Tax Day.

“One complaint I’ve never heard from my constituents is that the IRS doesn’t ask them for enough information. Yet the legislation before us would impose burdensome new reporting requirements on five million Americans with health savings accounts. Although Congress has held no hearings to determine whether misuse of HSA funds is a real problem, these requirements would make HSAs less convenient for consumers and could lead financial institutions to stop offering HSAs. Ironically, this bill would also repeal a program that collects bad tax debts.

“The Majority’s message seems to be that if you’re not paying your taxes, we’ll let you off the hook, but if you follow the rules, we’ll increase your burden of compliance. That’s the wrong message to send this Tax Day. I urge a ‘no’ vote.”